In the Claims:

This listing of claims will replace all prior versions, and listings, of claims in the application:

Listing of the Claims

1. (Currently amended) A method of adding an element to a partition of a partitionable computer system comprising

the element receiving an instruction to join the partition by the element;

determining the a security status of the element;

the element updating a routing table of a routing device in communication with the partition and the element being permitted to update the routing table only when the security status of the element is a secure state where the element is executing trusted software; and

transitioning the security status of the element to an unsecure state other than the secure state.

2. (Original) The method of claim 1 wherein the receiving comprises receiving the instruction from a processor of the partition.

3. (Original) The method of claim 1 wherein the updating comprises adding an element identifier to a route enable mask of the routing device.

4. (Original) The method of claim 1 wherein the determining comprises accessing a register.

5. (Currently amended) A method of moving an element from a first partition of a partitionable computing system to a second partition of the partitionable computing system comprising:

sending to the element receiving an instruction to join the second partition by the element;

removing the element from the first partition;

updating a routing table of a first routing device in communication with the second partition when the a security status of the element is a secure state where the element is executing trusted software;

Attorney Docket No. 200313270-1 (192661)
Appln. No. 10/756,431
Response to office action mailed June 22, 2007

PATENT

updating a routing table of a second routing device in communication with the first partition when the element is removed from the first partition; and

transitioning the security status of the element to <u>an</u> unsecure <u>state other than the secure state</u>.

6. (Original) The method of claim 5 wherein the receiving comprises receiving the instruction from a processor of the first partition.

7. (Original) The method of claim 5 wherein the updating comprises adding an element identifier to a route enable mask of the first routing device.

8. (Original) The method of claim 7 wherein the updating further comprises removing an element identifier from a route enable mask of the second routing device.

9. (Original) The method of claim 5 wherein the determining comprises accessing a register.

10. (Original) The method of claim 6 further comprising rebooting the element after the removing.

11. (Original) The method of claim 10 further comprising performing self-initialization by the element.

12. (Original) The method of claim 11 further comprising transitioning the element from an unsecure state to a secure state after the self-initialization.

13. (Original) A method of transitioning an element associated with a partition of a partitionable computer system comprising:

removing the element from the partition; and

rebooting the element thereby causing the element to transition to a secure state <u>where the element is executing trusted software</u>.

14. (Original) The method of claim 13 wherein the rebooting comprises performing self-initialization by the element.

15. (Currently amended) A method of removing an element from a partition of a partitionable computing system comprising:

receiving an instruction to remove the element;

removing the element from the ~~first~~ partition; and

updating a routing table of a routing device in communication with the partition when the element is removed from the ~~first~~ partition.

16. (Original) The method of claim 15 wherein the receiving comprises receiving the instruction from a processor of the partition.

17. (Original) The method of claim 15 wherein the updating comprises removing an element identifier from a route enable mask of the routing device.

18. (Original) The method of claim 15 further comprising rebooting the element after the removing.

19. (Currently amended) A method of forming a partition of a partitionable computing system during a boot process comprising:

> receiving an instruction by an element to join the partition;
>
> determining ~~the~~ a security status of the element;
>
> updating a routing table of a routing device in communication with the partition when the security status of the element is a secure <u>state where the element is executing trusted software</u>; and
>
> transitioning the security status of the element to <u>an</u> unsecure <u>state other than the secure state</u>.

20. (Original) The method of claim 19 wherein the receiving comprises receiving the instruction from a processor of the partition.

21. (Original) The method of claim 19 wherein the updating comprises adding an element identifier to a route enable mask of the routing device.

22. (Original) The method of claim 19 wherein the determining comprises accessing a register.

23. (Currently amended) A computer readable medium comprising instructions configured to <u>instruct a partitionable computer system to</u> add an element to a partition ~~of a~~ <u>of the</u> partitionable computer system by:

> <u>the element</u> receiving an instruction to join the partition ~~by the element~~;
>
> determining ~~the~~ a security status of the element;

updating a routing table of a routing device in communication with the partition when the security status of the element is a secure state where the element is executing trusted software; and

transitioning the security status of the element to an unsecure state other than the secure state.

24. (Currently amended) A computer readable medium comprising instructions configured to instruct a processor of an element of a partitionable computer system to move an element from a first partition of a partitionable computing system to a second partition of the partitionable computing system by:

receiving an instruction to join the second partition by the element;

removing the element from the first partition;

updating a routing table of a first routing device in communication with the second partition when the a security status of the element is a secure state where the element is executing trusted software;

updating a routing table of a second routing device in communication with the first partition when the element is removed from the first partition; and

transitioning the security status of the element to an unsecure state other than the secure state.

25. (Currently amended) A computer readable medium comprising instructions configured to instruct a processor of an element of a partitionable computer system to remove an the element from a partition of a of the partitionable computer system by:

receiving an instruction to remove the element;

removing the element from the first partition; and

updating a routing table of a routing device in communication with the partition when the element is removed from the first partition.

26. (Currently amended) A computer readable medium comprising instructions configured to instruct a partitionable computer system to create a partition of a partitionable computer system during a boot process by:

an element receiving an instruction by an element to join the partition;

determining the a security status of the element;

updating a routing table of a routing device in communication with the partition when the security status of the element is a secure state where the element is executing trusted software; and

transitioning the security status of the element to an unsecure state other than the secure state.